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Gift of W. B. Felton.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN



TOWN OF SANDWICH,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB., A. D. 1852.

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CONCORD:

STEAM POWER PRESS OF MCFARLAND & JENKS,
REAR OF LOW'S BLOCK, MAIN STREET.

1. 1838. 1938. 2. 1838. 1938.

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1838.

1838. 1938. 1838. 1938.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen charge themselves with the following sums, viz.:

Cash received of Town Treasurer for 1850,	\$92.72
Assessment of State tax,	296.40
County tax,	486.23
School tax,	494.00
Teachers' Institute tax,	24.70
Town tax,	1700.00
County road to Thornton,	50.00
Five per cent. on assessments, deducting fractions,	145.08
Highway <i>non-resident</i> tax,	28.80
Literary Fund, received June, 1851,	115.72
Cash received of the State for bounty,	77.10
Railroad tax,	5.02
Raymond & Co., (Caravan,)	30.00
June & Co. (Circus,)	30.00
Carroll County, for paupers,	216.90
Richard Rowe,	800.00
Treasurer of School Fund notes,	142.02
Daniel Hoit, for Pound,	25.00
John L. Quimby, for oxen sold,	75.75
John M. Smith and others, for stock, &c.,	30.69
Samuel Quimby, for 48 lbs. beef,	1.92
E. R. Beede, for 85 lbs. beef,	3.82
E. French, for 1 pelt,	.35
N. G. French, 1 hide, 75 lbs.,	3.37
Heard & Prescott, for 11½ lbs. butter,	1.15
do. 13 bushels oats,	5.20
do. 180 lbs. dry apple,	7.20
do. 1 hide, 58 lbs.,	2.61
Assessment of School-house tax, Dis. No. 7,	364.89
do. No. 8,	20.33
do. No. 10,	178.63
do. No. 13,	14.32
do. No. 16,	155.35
do. No. 19,	51.80
	\$5,677.07

Paid for Highways and Bridges.

Paid Larkin D. Brown for 721 feet plank,	4.32
Daniel Brown for 562 feet plank,	4.12
G. W. Penniman for 130 feet plank and 2 stringers,	1.28
W. Grant for 75 feet plank,	.87
do. building 2 piers and furnishing two stringers,	28.00
Alvah Quimby for 15 days' labor on French bridge,	11.25
Lewis Quimby for 12 do.	9.00
Jesse Ambrose & Co. for joint bolts for Taylor Bridge,	2.17
George Hart for 5 days' labor on Notch road,	3.34
Jonathan Tappan for 6 lbs. powder for blasting,	1.00
Levi Chase for 2 stringers for Chase bridge,	7.00
do. 747 feet plank for Chase bridge,	4.48
do. 613 do. Grant bridge,	3.68
do. 343 do. Weed's Mill bridge,	2.05
do. 5½ days' labor on Chase bridge,	3.75
Ira W. Dustan, for 3 days' labor on Notch road,	2.00
W. P. Beede for repairing bridge near Nathan Beede's,	11.60
Henry Weed for 1634 feet plank for French bridge,	10.00
W. Grant for 9 days' labor on highway,	5.99
T. C. Mason for repairing bridge west of Levi Smith's,	3.00
Ambrose Hall do. near I. Hall's,	3.00
Lewis Smith, do. Notch road,	.50
Gove & Vittum for covering Taylor bridge,	113.00
John G. Hart for repairing bridge, Notch road,	4.83
Moses Severance for 4 stringers for bridge near Brown's Mill,	4.00
W. P. Beede for repairing bridge near A. G. Beede's,	9.00
George Hart for breaking road,	10.33
Wm. Tewksbury, for 342 feet plank, Weed's Mill bridge,	2.73
Ira W. Dustan for breaking road,	10.50
Theophilus Gilman for plank and labor on Varney bridge,	22.39
Daniel Brown for labor on highway under A. A. Young,	1.00
Hiram E. French for 12 days' labor on road and bridge,	9.00
do. 29 hemlock trees, and drawing plank,	22.00
Isaac Fogg for 5½ days' labor on bridges,	4.12
Tufton Wallace for 2 days' labor on H. E. French bridge,	1.50
John Cotton, Jacob Smith and G. W. Wallace, non-resident,	1.40
Charles Vittum for plank and labor, for bridge, at mill,	2.30
Isaac Avery for breaking road, (on Surveyor's certificate,)	2.50
Paid William C. Taylor for 3 days' labor on road, 1850,	2.00
Ira W. Dustan for breaking roads,	7.50
J. Furber for 1 day's labor on J. C. Rogers' road,	.67
D. G. Beede for services,	7.00
John Gove for labor on French bridge, and other services,	18.10

\$378.27

Paid for External Poor.

Paid B. H. Hodge toward support of Joshua Prescott,	\$9.00
Joseph Hadley for board and care of Hosea Hadley during sickness,	12.00
James B. Blanchard for support of Benjamin Blanchard,	26.00
do. supplies furnished Ruth B. Fairfield,	10.00
Joseph Wentworth for supplies furnished E. Corliss,	2.55
J. F. Moulton for boots for D. B. Rowe,	2.62
Ira Atwood for support of Mrs. Atwood 11 months,	25.67
Tristram Sanborn for medicine and attendance, Hosea Hadley, do.	30.46
John Fellows, Jr., for 3½ cords wood to E. Corliss,	3.50
do. horse & sleigh to French's for do.	.42 3.92
George Sanborn for medicine and attendance, Mary A. Brown,	7.00
T. J. Sweatt for medicine and attendance, Stephen Scribner,	6.10
B. Jewett for coffin for George H. Moulton,	3.00
N. G. French for supplies furnished E. Corliss,	6.33
do. do. D. B. Rowe for Mrs. Rowe,	5.00
L. D. Brown for supplies for F. A. Bickford,	2.08
David Bennett do.	1.17
Ambrose & Burley do.	8.27
Gould & Varney do.	4.23
Gilman Moulton do.	2.19
Heard & Prescott do.	17.47
Chas. White for medical attendance on do.	16.46
Moses Butter for support of Polly Vittum to May 20, 1851,	5.36
do. toward support of Polly Vittum since May 20,	15.40
do. do. do.	4.64
Tristram Sanborn for medicine and attendance, M. & L. Gott,	5.25
S. H. Dolloff balance for support of Esther Dolloff to May 21, '50,	13.25
do. do. May 20, 1851,	35.00
do. toward the support of do. since May 20, 1851,	38.00
John C. Thompson for support of B. Bryant 19 weeks,	9.50
James F. Wallace do. to Feb. 10, 1851,	13.50
Heard & Prescott for supplies, Ferguson and Hadley,	13.37
T. J. Sweatt for medical attendance, Mrs. Fairfield,	1.00
Charles White do. Elizabeth Quimby,	2.93
D. B. Rowe toward support of Mrs. Rowe,	20.75
J. Furber for services as overseer of poor, and expenses,	19.70
John Gove for supplies for E. G. Corliss,	1.15
D. G. Beede for services as overseer of the poor, and expenses,	54.75
	\$455.88

Paid for Paupers at Farm.

Paid Elias Vittum for 6 days haying,	\$6.00
do. 266 feet plank for floor,	1.60
do. digging grave for D. Atkinson,	1.00
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do. labor, plank and potatoes,	6.00
Samuel Fogg for pasturing oxen,	2.00
Ambrose & Burley for plow and supplies,	8.74
Henry Weed for boards, cart timber, drag plank and carding,	5.94
do. 2 pigs,	4.00
George Perkins for 3 prs. shoes, and mending 1 pr. do.	3.33
Moses Burnham for 11 bushels potatoes,	3.67
Samuel Blackey for shote, 179 lbs., at 6½c.,	11.64
A. E. Hill for 2 prs. shoes,	2.24
Lewis Quimby for balance of services to Apr. 20, 1851,	20.00
Joseph Q. Prescott for pasturing oxen in 1850,	1.68
Jacob F. Webster for pump,	3.96
do. 6 bush. potatoes at 2 s.	2.00
do. Blacksmith bill,	1.84
Tufton Vittum for oxen, including interest,	74.86
Joseph Wentworth for supplies,	53.66
John H. Hitton for 6 bus. potatoes, at 42c.,	2.52
Charles White for 26 visits and medicine,	36.01
Theophilus Gilman for supplies,	7.66
John N. Blackey balance of Blacksmith bill,	1.19
Tristram Sanborn for 20 visits and medicine,	25.93
Gould & Varney for supplies,	2.45
Samuel F. Vittum for 10 months' services, ending Feb. 20, '52,	158.33
Abigail L. Green for 1 yoke of yearling steers,	22.20
Mrs. Quimby for making robe for D. Atkinson,	.25
Elias Vittum for $\frac{1}{4}$ bush. beans, .37; 4 lbs. coffee, .50,	.87
Heard & Prescott for supplies,	55.96
do. for Clement Bean,	3.86
J. Furber for services and $\frac{1}{2}$ bush. seed corn,	3.00
N. G. French for supplies,	37.20
J. F. Moulton 1 pr. boots for D. Atkinson,	2.62
John Gove for coffin for D. Atkinson,	3.00
D. G. Beede for 5 days at farm and expenses of appraisers,	9.00
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	\$586.21

Paid for Schools.

Paid School District No. 1,	56.25
do. No. 2,	41.50
do. No. 3,	39.75
do. No. 4,	55.26
do. No. 5,	35.25
do. No. 6,	25.50
do. No. 7,	57.75
do. No. 8,	33.75
do. No. 9,	49.50
do. No. 10,	40.04
do. No. 11,	39.00
do. No. 12,	23.25
do. No. 13,	28.33
do. No. 14,	23.61
do. No. 15,	59.71
do. No. 16,	50.25
do. No. 18,	52.50
do. No. 19,	25.50
do. No. 20,	5.22

\$741.92

Paid Incidental Expenses.

Paid L. B. Ethridge for 2 days services as police,	\$2.00
Lewis Quimby for building 6 rods wall near town house,	6.00
James Bryer for abatement school-house tax,	.64
Joseph Varney do.	.59
L. B. Ethridge toward building Pound,	10.00
E. G. Severance for 2 days' service as police,	2.00
Asa Magoon for abatement on colt lost,	.12
F. A. Williams for 4 days' service enrolling 7th Infantry Co.,	4.00
Amos H. Hill for 2 days' service as police,	2.00
Albert Tilton for 4 days enrolling 7th Infantry Co.,	4.00
Ira Marston for putting up guide-boards,	.75
Daniel Brown for abatement of tax,	1.78
Samuel Prescott for 2 days' labor on Pound,	1.33
L. P. Willowby for military services in 1850,	3.00
G. S. Felch for 5 days enrolling 2d Co. Infantry,	5.00
Stephen Dinsmore for 5 days enrolling 2d Co. Infantry,	5.00
J. P. Chase for 2 days' service as police,	2.00
H. G. Chick for poll tax of Joseph B. Jones for 1850,	1.99
John H. Hilton for 2 days' service as constable,	2.00
Amos V. Hurd for abatement of school-house tax,	.78
John W. Severance for 2 days as police,	2.00

Paid Stephen Cogan for services as Superintending School Com.,	14.50
James J. Kimball toward building Pound,	8.13
M. S. Webster for 1 day as police,	1.00
Gould & Varney for stationery,	3.08
A. B. Seavey for military services, 1851,	1.00
Aaron Beede for abatement of school-house tax,	.66
Charles W. Bryant for 1 day's labor on Pound,	1.00
Hobbs & Sanborn for services as counsel,	30.00
Heard & Prescott for stationery,	.38
Richard Rowe for interest on loan,	13.48
Russell Graves for damage to horse in bridge,	13.00
H. G. Chick for poll tax of Harrison Heath for 1850,	1.99
L. B. Tasker for services as Super. School Committee,	14.25
H. N. Hart poll tax, 1.78 ; H. N. Hart school-house poll tax, 1.98,	3.76
T. B. Weeks for 2 days' service as constable,	2.00
N. G. French for services as town clerk,	17.74
J. Furber, services, 59.93 ; J. Gove, services, 50.00 ; J. Gove, Jewel case, 20.75,	130.68
D. G. Beede, services, 88.75 ; A. B. Hoyt, services, 11.75,	100.50
E. R. Beede, 13.17 ; Stephen Beede, 12.00,	25.17
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	\$439.30

Town Farm.

Invoice of personal property as appraised by John Burley and Samuel Thompson, March 26, 1851, and Feb. 20, 1852.

1851.

1 pr. oxen 9 yrs. old,	\$70,00
4 cows,	60,00
3 heifers, 2 yrs. old,	30,00
2 steers, 1 yr. old,	12,00
17 sheep and 12 lambs,	34,00
1 shot,	9,00
	215,00
7 tons hay,	42,50
26 $\frac{1}{2}$ bus. corn in ear,	20,25
5 bus. wheat, 5,00; 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ beans, \$2,	7,00
7 bus. oats,	2,92
4 bus. turnips,	1,00
5 bus. potatoes,	1,40
125 lbs. pork,	10,50
400 lbs. beef,	16,00
$\frac{1}{3}$ bbl. flour,	2,00
33 lbs. tallow,	3,30
30 lbs. dried apple,	1,50
5 yokes, 2 irons, and 3 bows,	3,75
2 hay forks and 2 shovels,	,50
3 snaths, 3 hoes, 3 rakes, 1 manure fork,	1,00
ox chains,	1,00
2 iron bars, beetle and wedge,	2,33
1 plow and 1 harrow,	1,00
clevis and pin, and 1 ox sled,	2,50
4 axes,	1,33
1 pr. ox wheels, and 2 carts,	5,00
30 sap buckets and sap tub,	2,30
1 grindstone,	,50
dry casks, boxes, baskets, & 7 bus. ashes,	2,42
Bed, bedding, and bedstead, occu- pied by Nancy Tewksbury,	2,00
Bed, bedding & bedstead occupied by Elizabeth Quimby,	8,00
Bed, bedding & bedstead occupied by Lois Beede & al.,	7,00
Bed, bedding & bedstead occupied by Abigail Sinclair,	4,00
Bed, bedding & bedstead occupied by D. Atkinson,	3,00
Bed of Sarah Eastman,	1,50
Bed, bedding and bedstead unoccu- pied,	4,00
Bedding not included in the above,	8,77
Fire wood, estimat'd 50 cords,	25,00
$\frac{1}{2}$ bus. measure,	,17
1 wash board, 4 reels,	,50
4 table covers, \$1; 4 towels ,50,	1,50
2 long towels, ,40; 2 meal bags, ,25, ,65	
2 lbs. feathers,	,50
7 tables,	2,75
1 box stove, 3,00; 1 tin baker, ,06,	3,06
3 wheels, 3,00; 5 cases drawers,	
4,75	7,75

1852.

1 pr. oxen, 6 yrs. old,	80,00
2 cows,	35,00
2 three years old heifers,	30,00
4 two years old steers,	50,00
2 heifers, 1 year old,	10,00
16 sheep,	30,00
2 shotas	10,00
9 tons hay,	54,00
1 cow hide, 78 lbs.,	3,50
20 bu. corn,	15,00
23 " oats,	9,66
5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " wheat,	6,88
2 " beans,	3,00
250 lbs. pork,	25,00
350 " beef,	21,00
70 bu. potatoes,	23,33
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bls. cider,	3,00
$\frac{2}{3}$ " flour,	3,75
5 pecks meal,	1,25
29 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. lard,	3,00
8 " butter and firkin,	1,25
25 " dried apples,	1,25
25 $\frac{1}{2}$ " candles,	3,18
1 plow, 7,50, 1 do., ,75;	8,25
1 harrow,	2,50
1 pr. ox wheels and 2 carts,	6,00
3 ox chains, 3,00, 2 iron bars, 3,00;	6,00
4 ox yokes, 2 irons and bows,	3,00
clevis and pin, and 1 ox sled,	2,50
3 axes,	,50
1 shovel, 2 old do., 2 manure forks,	2,00
2 hay forks, 1,50, 3 do., ,17,	1,67
5 hoes, ,75, 1 sickle, 25,	1,00
6 rakes,	,84
1 breaking up hoe,	,75
scythes and snaths, &c.,	1,50
bed, bedding and bedstead occupied by Nancy Tewksbury,	2,00
bed, bedding and bedstead occupied by Elizabeth Quimby.	8,00
bed, bedding and bedstead occupied by Lois Beede,	8,50
bed, bedding and bedstead occupied by Abigail Sinclair,	4,00
bed, bedding and bedstead formerly occupied by D. Atkinson,	4,00
bed of Sarah Eastman,	4,00
bed, bedding & bedstead unoccupi'd,	6,00
bedding not included in the above,	9,14
10 cords hard wood,	15,00
25 " hemlock "	12,50
lot hemlock timber,	2,00
$\frac{1}{2}$ bushel measure,	,17
3 grain chests,	,75
dry casks,	,50
hemlock boards,	2,50
1 wood saw and frame,	1,00

1 loom and apparatus,	5,00	40 sap buckets and tub,	2,30
Lot of wheels in chamber,	2,00	1 beetle and wedge,	,33
1 meal chest,	,60	1 grind stone,	2,50
1 cooking stove and apparatus,	5,00	1 do. worn out,	,06
4 sad irons,	1,00	12 bro. milk pans,	1,25
4 shovels and tongs,	1,00	15 knives and forks,	1,34
1 five pail kettle,	2,00	12 spoons,	,38
4 iron pots, 2,00 ; 1 small kettle,	2,50	12 cups and saucers,	,50
1 fry basin, 3 old tea kettles,	1,00	12 cups and saucers, 23 plates, 4	
6 tin pans, and 3 pails,	1,00	bowls, and 1 dish,	2,00
1 cream pot and 3 plates,	,25	6 bowls,	,50
2 pewter platters,	,50	1 stone jug,	,75
brown ware,	,25	1 clothes basket,	,50
knives, forks and spoons,	,70	7½ yds. cotton and wool cloth,	2,50
12 cups and saucers, 27 plates, 4		1 wash board,	,25
bowls and 1 dish,	2,00	4 reels, 25 ; 3 table covers, 75 ;	1,00
2 trays, 3 wooden pails,	,65	4 towels, 50 ; 1 long do. 20.,	,70
1 time piece,	5,00	2 meal bags,	,25
20 chairs, 4,00 ; 4 trunks, 1,00,	5,00	7 tables, 2,75 ; 1 baker, 06,	2,81
2 looking glasses, 50 ; 1 steely'd, 50,	1,00	1 box stove,	3,00
4 cider casks, 2,00, stone jug, 33,	2,33	5 cases drawers,	4,75
1½ bbls. soap,	6,00	3 wheels,	3,00
bed and bedding of Clement Bean,	8,00	1 loom and apparatus,	5,00
1 cow of Mr. Bean,	20,00	lot of wheels in chamber,	2,00
	471,93	1 meal chest,	,60
		1 cooking stove and apparatus,	5,00
		3 sad irons,	,75
		4 shovel and tongs,	1,00
		1 five pail kettle,	2,00
		1 small do.	,50
		4 iron pots,	2,00
		1 fry basin,	,25
		3 old tea kettles,	,75
		6 tin pans, and 3 pails,	1,00
		1 cream pot, and 3 plates,	,50
		1 pewter platter,	,25
		2 trays and 3 wooden pails,	,65
		1 time-piece,	5,00
		20 chairs, 4,00 ; 4 trunks, 1,00 ;	5,00
		2 looking glasses, 50 ; steelyard, 50 ; 1,00	
		4 cider casks, 2,00 ; 1 stone jug, 33 ; 2,33	
		4 baskets,	,67
		1 new pump,	3,96
			\$643,60

Recapitulation.

	1851.	1852.	
Stock,	215.00	Stock,	245.00
Provisions,	108.37	Provisions,	178.05
Farming Tools,	23.63	Farming Tools,	36.51
Beds and bedding,	38.27	Beds and bedding,	45.64
Fire wood,	25.00	Fire wood,	27.50
Furniture,	61.66	Furniture,	77.80
	\$471.93		\$610.50
Expenses of Farm, including services of master			
and matron, excluding physician's bill,		450.97	
Stock purchased,		96.62	\$547.59

From which deduct

Stock sold,	132.06
Excess of last inventory,	138.57
Cash rec'd of County for support of E. Quimby,	62.40
	\$333.03

Leaving a balance of \$214.56

The number of paupers supported, and the time of their support, is as follows: Elizabeth Quimby, aged 73 years; Rosa Rice, aged 58 years; Nancy Tewksbury, aged 56; Abigail Sinclair, 60; Lois Beede, 56, and Mrs. C. Bean, 80, have each received support 48 weeks. Clement Bean, 14½ weeks; Rebecca Atwood, 7½ weeks; child of Rebecca Atwood, 10½ weeks; David Atkinson, 30½ weeks, to the time of his death, Oct. 23, 1851: showing an aggregate of 351 weeks support, which gives the expense of board and clothing not to exceed fifty-eight cents per week, after deducting the funeral expenses of David Atkinson.

Liabilities of Town, March, 1851.

Nathan Mason,	146.32
J. C. Wiggin,	220.77
J. Gove and E. Vittum,	113.00
J. Bainbridge Quimby,	484.26
Road Commissioners,	114.00
J. Hanson & others, am't not ascertained.	
L. D. Sawyer,	20.00
Samuel Emerson,	19.00
J. H. Hobbs,	10.00
Hobbs & Sanborn,	26.00
School District, No. 4,	25.26
do. No. 15,	25.96
do. No. 20,	2.97
do. No. 14,	6.36
Lewis Quimby,	10.00
Levi Chase,	7.00
L. B. Willowby,	3.00
H. G. Chick,	3.98
J. Q. Prescott,	1.68
S. H. Dolloff,	38.25
John C. Thompson,	7.00
	\$1284.81

Liabilities of the Town, Feb. 20, 1852.

J. Bainbridge Quimby, note,	513.11
Richard Rowe, do.	800.00
J. Hanson and others, execution, am't not ascertained.	

School District, No. 17,	16.50
do. No. 10,	38.06
Samuel Busell, account,	25.00
Hobbs & Sanborn, do.	16.00
J. H. Hobbs, do.	10.00
Samuel Emerson, do.	30.00
L. D. Sawyer, do.	20.00

\$1468.67

In addition to the above, Meredith has a small claim for supplies furnished the wife of N. Whittier, formerly Mahala Straw, not adjusted because not presented. Also, Epping claims payment for support of Mrs. Willey, who was the widow of Benjamin Choat, the adjustment of which has been deferred, in consequence of a suit pending in the Superior Court, in which the settlement of Willey is involved.

There will be due James J. Kimball, at the completion of the Pound, about twenty-six dollars.

General Account.

The Selectmen are charged with	\$5677.07
They have paid the following sums:	
For State tax,	296.40
For County tax,	486.23
For Teacher's Institute,	24.70
Nathan Mason on note,	146.32
Paul Wentworth on note,	220.77
Road Commissioners,	114.00
For Bounty,	67.10
For Militia,	41.00
For labor on County road,	59.63
For highways and bridges,	378.27
For support of paupers at farm,	586.21
For " " " not "	455.83
For schools,	741.92
For incidental expenses,	439.30
For school district No. 7,	258.87
For " " " 10,	83.72
For " " " 13,	,93
Balance in hands of Selectmen and collector, including services of collector, abatements, and unsettled school house taxes,	1275.87 5677.07

Errors excepted.

DANIEL G. BEEDE, } Selectmen
JEREMIAH FURBER, } of
JOHN GOVE, } Sandwich.

Sandwich, Feb. 28, 1852.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF
SANDWICH, N. H.,
For the Year ending March, A. D. 1852.

Ours is a day of progress, invention and discovery. Mind, with all its disabilities and embarrassments, is struggling with mighty energy for expansion, for freedom and knowledge; and by its unwearied exertions, its achievements have been great. How surprising and numerous its inventions! Forty five years ago, there was only one steamboat in the whole world; now, we can only say of their numbers, "Count the leaves of the forest." They navigate the Ganges, the Nile, the Clyde, the Danube, the Red Sea, our own great Lakes from Ontario to Superior, and our mighty rivers from the St. Lawrence to the golden sanded Sacramento. Less than twenty five years ago, there were only thirty miles of locomotive railway in the world; but now, in the United States alone, there are more than 10,000 miles.

Yea, thought, dissatisfied with the speed of the gay steamer and the thundering cars, has mounted the lightning's wing and run along the Telegraphic lines with its own characteristic swiftness. While genius has been thus surprising the world with these and other useful inventions, the kingdoms of nature have been extensively explored, and the knowledge gleaned from them has been of great practical utility to the agriculturist, the mechanic, to professional men, to artisans of all classes. And indeed, the external comfort, safety, and happiness of mankind generally, have been much promoted. Curious, and ever inquisitive, mind has not only pried into the icy secrets of the polar regions, deciphered the hieroglyphics of Egypt, and rummaged the ruins of the mighty cities of antiquity; but has detached itself from earth, wandered among the planets, calculated their velocity and dimensions, measured the rings of Saturn, weighed the moons of Jupiter, and traced the awful comet in his eccentric excursions, has seen him in his Aphelion checked by Almighty power and bidden to return as quickly to borrow brighter beams of his solar centre. The world, in every department, is aroused from the slumber of ages. And it is very evident that there is a mighty power at work in the great soul of humanity, giving impulse to this movement, and supplying with its vital energy, all the parts of the vast and complicated organism. This power is knowledge, the cause of all the activity, the nourisher of all the enterprise.

In the political world, not long since, darkness and despotism were rampant among the nations of the earth. There was not a free people to be found; even Switzerland, with a constitution comparatively free, was ruled by haughty and aspiring citizens. Monarchs played with the dearest rights of nations, as with foot-balls, and the people tamely submitted because they only dreamed of freedom. But in 1776 the day dawned, the political hor-

izon was illumined, and the deep-toned voice of an awakened and outraged people went booming over the waters and resounding through the air in undying echoes declaring in the ears of peasants and princes "All men are born free and equal!" Do you ask where lies such Herculean power? We answer again, in knowledge, in the general diffusion of general knowledge. Ignorance must suffer tyranny, while intelligence prepares for freedom and manly independence. Other ages and other countries have produced men of great intellectual qualifications, who have shined in camps and courts, but they were the few among the many; while the masses in Church and State have been in such a deplorable state of ignorance as to give ample scope to the ambition of a Hildebrand or a Louis Napoleon.

No system of education is so well adapted to meet the exigencies of the times upon which we have fallen, as the Common School System of New-England. This system, however, had its birth in Scotland. Amid her lovely hills and fertile vales, was cradled the infancy of a glorious free school system that is fast extending over the habitable world. It was conceived in the heart of John Knox, who with his associates, first petitioned the proper authorities in behalf of common schools. The petition was granted in 1560, almost 300 years ago.

From Scotland the system extended into England and Ireland; but it never flourished until planted in the genial soil of New-England. Our Fathers who landed on Plymouth rock, brought with them the elements of the common school system of Education, and erected the substantial frame-work of a structure of intelligence and learning, to adorn, beautify and perfect which, has ever been the pride of their descendants. The first free school was established in Boston, April 13, 1635, for the teaching of which £20 were contributed. Philemon Permont was the first teacher, and Daniel Maude his successor. Let their names be had in remembrance as the pioneers of American pedagogues. A school was established at Plymouth the same year; soon afterwards in other towns in the vicinity. New-Hampshire, if we mistake not, has the honor of enacting the first law (in 1683) in relation to common schools, and perhaps as a result, fewer of her sons and daughters than those of any other State, according to the population, have been unable to read and write.

In 1647, a general law for the support of common schools by taxation was enacted, embracing Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, which it will be remembered, from 1641 to 1690, were united under the same government.

Within a few years, much has been done in our country for the cause of popular education, and much still remains to be done. No patriotic heart can feel indifferent to the cause of education. It is the bulwark of our free institutions and the grand motor of all improvement. No republic can long exist when popular ignorance prevails, nor can monarchies long survive unless the populace are deprived of the means of mental and moral culture. Of this the history of nations furnish illustrations. About one half of the population of England can neither read nor write. In the Slave States 1 to 18—in the free 1 to 180; and in New-England only 1 to about 222 can neither read nor write. Common schools, in the Eastern States, are fast becoming what the best good of individuals, and of the commonwealth requires. Here all classes are encircled in the same fraternal embrace; the rich and the poor meet together.

Having passed these desultory remarks, comparisons and items of history before your minds, your Committee to whose supervision your schools the past year have been entrusted, will make some report in regard to the schools of this town. Our report must necessarily be defective from two considerations at least.

First. In some instances, Prudential Committees have failed to notify your Committee of the commencement and close of their schools.

Secondly. Teachers have not, in all cases, kept their registers as they should have been ; and in a few cases, have not returned them seasonably to the Committee.

In most cases, however, your schools have been visited twice each term. As a general thing, we think that the qualifications, zeal, and success of the teachers, will suffer nothing in comparison with last year. We have had some competent, excellent teachers, but not enough to supply the demand. In order to have good schools, it is a matter of great importance, that teachers should not only possess adequate literary qualifications ; but also, the art of teaching and governing should be understood by every teacher. It has now become an axiom that "as the teacher so is the school." If the teacher be prompt and energetic, the school catches his spirit and rapidly improves ; if sluggish, his want of enthusiasm is detrimental to the progress of the school. But how shall the standard of suitable qualifications in the teacher be elevated ? The Teachers' Institute is designed and well adapted under judicious management to do much by way of introducing the best and most approved methods of teaching and governing, and also in securing a very desirable uniformity. But there are difficulties in securing such a class of teachers as we need, which are beyond the power of County Institutes to remove. These obstacles, however, can be removed by us. Several circumstances conspire to detract from the esteem and high repute in which the instructors of our youth should ever be held. Few public functionaries hold a more important position in society, and a very few than whom, are exerting a greater influence. Low wages is one difficulty. Almost any other business is more lucrative. The meagre stipend of the teacher serves to degrade the office in his own view and that of others. In most other ranks of society, good pay and an honorable office or occupation, are ever associated. One other circumstance operates badly upon the sensibilities and self respect of the teacher. In many districts, the seat of their operations, their place of daily toil would, more likely have been mistaken in the dark ages of superstition, by a casual observer for the general rendezvous of wizards or gipsies, than for a place where an industrious, intelligent and enterprising people send their lovely rosy cheeked children to be educated for those high and responsible stations they must soon occupy. When the teacher enters one of these filthy, ill constructed rooms, and surveys the furniture, the old broken chair, the seats and desks hacked, scored and scratched by several generations of unlucky boys, he feels himself deeply degraded. The class of little strangers before him have come out from the tidy cottages in the neighborhood where neatness and order reign ; but here a disorder and turbulency, inspired by their circumstances, characterize the youthful assemblage. Here, day after day, he is doomed to go the rounds of his thankless task, and for board and lodging, in many cases, to wander over the district like a common mendicant. Here are two reasons why we have not more good teachers. These evils lie within our power to remedy. The needed reform, in relation to houses, is already commenced. There are several neat, commodious, well constructed school houses in the town, and some that need thorough repairs. We hope that this work will go on, and the happy results be realized in every district. To supply the defection in regard to wages, we would earnestly call your attention to the importance of making larger appropriations for the support of common schools than the law demands.

Ours is the first town in this County in respect to population and wealth ; but we appropriate less money to a scholar than any other town save one. Of the 211 towns in this State reported last year, 196 towns appropriate

from \$1,01 to \$5,08 to each scholar, averaging more than \$2,00 to a scholar; while this town appropriates only 93 cents to a scholar. Of the 14 towns of the lowest rank, 74 cents is the average. As to population, we rank the 16th town in the State. Only 9 towns have a greater number of scholars, or receive a greater share of the literary fund, and only 57 whose valuation is greater. If these figures be correct, they show a comparative want of educational enterprise in our town. When we shall raise a sum of money equal to our rank as to wealth and population, our teachers can be amply remunerated for their services. Parents by visits can do much to elevate our schools to that position their importance demands.

But the Prudential Committee holds by far the most responsible office for the successful operation of our school system. Their duties should be well understood. They should be judicious in the choice of the teacher, and know that the teacher has the requisite certificate before the school is commenced. They should be careful to notify the Superintending Committee of the commencement and close of the school. It is their duty to know that the teacher has made proper statistical returns to the Committee before the wages are paid. Without their coöperation, but little can be done by the Superintending Committee. Let every district be careful, for the year to come, to select men of the right stamp, prompt, faithful, law-abiding men.

We would here call the attention of District Committees to the following legal decision in relation to common schools. See Digest of school laws, Page 39. "An agent of a school district who employs and pays an instructor, cannot recover the amount thus paid either of the Selectmen or of the town, unless it appear that certificates of the qualifications of the instructor were presented to the Selectmen, or the committee for inspecting schools, as required by statute." 3 N. H. R. 57.

For the purpose of exciting a feeling of dissatisfaction with our present condition, and producing a conviction that we ought to make renewed efforts to promote the interests of education, we have dwelt long, perhaps too long, on the dark side; but in justice to the citizens, teachers, and schools of the town, we must not fail to add that the County Commissioner highly commended the teachers of Sandwich who attended the Institute, and some of our school-houses, especially those rebuilt the past year.

We deeply regret that we cannot, as we intended, give a concise view of the several districts, that they might have credit for their enterprise, teachers who merit it, just praise for their success, and schools censure or praise as they have deserved. Matter of this description could be more easily obtained, and juster comparisons be made, if one man instead of there, should visit all the schools.

In conclusion, we would say that, in our opinion, there is an increasing interest felt in our schools, and we devoutly desire that this worthy cause may receive a new impetus at our annual meeting by a vote to raise more money. We love our children. Let their moral and intellectual culture claim our highest regards. Let our hearts beat in sympathy with our system of common schools, as well as Academies, High schools and Colleges. And may this system, like the wide-spreading Banyan, flourish and extend over our country, and the world, and indeed become the common heritage of man.

L. B. TASKER,
A. B. HOYT,
STEPHEN COGAN, } Superintending School
Committee.